

# Gossip: One of the Most Overlooked Sins

1 Timothy 3:8,11

## Introduction:

- What are some things that you never overlook?
  - 1.
  - 2.
- What are some things that you might overlook?
  - 1.
  - 2.
- What are some sins that people NEVER overlook?
  - (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- What are some sins that believers might tend to ignore?
  - (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_
- In our study of 1 Timothy 3:8,11, we are going to look at one of the most overlooked sins - gossip.
  1. Both men and women d\_\_\_\_\_ must not have this weakness.
  2. From this lesson you will learn:
    - a. How to identify gossip.
    - b. What actions to take to prevent its damage to any relationships and to the church.

## How do you identify gossip?

- Two qualifying words are used having to do with the use of the tongue:
  1. Verse 8 – *not d\_\_\_\_\_ -tongued* (this is the most literal translation; NLT and NIV use positive words – *sincere, having integrity*).
  2. Verse 11 – *not malicious gossips* (other versions – *not slanderers*). The Greek word is *diabolos*, where we get our word diabolic. It is the same word for the d\_\_\_\_\_ in verses 6,7.
    - a. Satan uses words to:
      - 1) A\_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet 5:8; Rev 12:10)
      - 2) L\_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 8:44)
      - 3) D\_\_\_\_\_ (Rev 20:7,8)
    - b. Satan does the above to d\_\_\_\_\_ a person's character. He did this to:
      - 1) J\_\_\_\_\_ (Job 1:11)

2) G\_\_\_\_\_ (Gen 3:4)

●Gossip is any speech that either i\_\_\_\_\_ to damage one's character or r\_\_\_\_\_ in that damage. Examples:

1. Spreading r\_\_\_\_\_
2. Betraying s\_\_\_\_\_
3. Group p\_\_\_\_\_ requests that exposes unknown negative information that is damaging to a person's character.

### How must you handle gossip?

●Gal 6:1 – You must g\_\_\_\_\_ correct those who gossip.

●Matt 18:15-18 – You must go to the source (the person who is the object of the negative talk) p\_\_\_\_\_.

1. If the rumor is true – encourage the person to r\_\_\_\_\_.  
If they repent, great. If they don't repent, then proceed through the steps.
2. If the rumor is false
  - a. Go to the person who gave you this false information
    - 1) Give them the t\_\_\_\_\_.
    - 2) Tell them to spread the truth to the person they got the information from.
    - 3) Tell them to instruct the person they got the information from to do the same.
  - b. The above process is to be r\_\_\_\_\_ until everyone has the truth.

●Prov 20:19 – Do not a\_\_\_\_\_ with a gossipier.

1. Listening to gossip just e\_\_\_\_\_ this sin.
2. If the gossipier claims to be a believer, you must apply the steps of Matt 18:15-18 before applying this proverb.

### How can you avoid gossip?

●Never share n\_\_\_\_\_ information about someone just for the sake of information.

●When someone shares in confidence negative information about someone, make certain:

1. It is for the purpose of p\_\_\_\_\_
2. It involves pursuing s\_\_\_\_\_ in resolving issues.

●Focus on speaking p\_\_\_\_\_ words (Eph 4:29)